

# A Guide for Farmers wishing to Fast Track Conversion for Organic Milk Production

Organic requirements are in addition to other statutory requirements  
Statutory information is for guidance only and is correct at time of going to print

**Farmers wishing to produce organic milk on the day on which their land attains organic status need to fulfil the following criteria and all will be checked at the inspection required during the 6 month feeding period to sale of organic milk.**

1. The Organic management of the herd must have started 9 months prior to the intended organic milk production date. (OF&G Livestock Standard 8.2.11).
2. Feeding to the Standards must start 6 months prior to the intended organic milk production date (OF&G Livestock Standard 8.2.11)
3. The Dairy herd must be grazing organic land on the day organic milk production is intended (OF&G Livestock Standard 8.2.14). As a rule of thumb:
  - a. The conversion of all land intended for grazing and forage production must begin in the spring before the date when first cut silage is normally made;
  - b. The start of the conversion (and therefore the completion) should be on or after turnout date;
  - c. For a whole farm conversion, the milk can only be marketed as organic after the cattle are turned out onto the organic pasture (after it has completed its conversion);
  - d. For a farm in a staged conversion, 60% of the grazing and forage production must be organic with the balance in second year conversion.
4. A feeding plan, calculated in Dry Matter Intake (DMI) must be completed for the period from the beginning of the final 6 months of the 9 month conversion period up until 31<sup>st</sup> December of the year in which it is intended that organic milk production should begin. It is important that this is done correctly otherwise the organic milk date could be delayed or non-compliances found during the last inspection and a considerable financial loss incurred.

**The feed plan must be sent to the OF&G Certification office for assessment for compliance with Section 4 of the Livestock Standards. A poorly prepared plan that is difficult to assess may incur a charge for the Certification Officer's time taken to check it.**

5. Records of the actual feed being fed during the final 6 months must be maintained to show that the feeding complies with the OF&G Standards.
6. All intervening inspections must be completed and all Compliance Notices attended to before a Certificate for organic milk production can be issued. Sale of milk as organic without a valid certificate on which "Organic Dairy Cattle & Milk" is specified is a manifest infringement and can result in loss of Certification.
7. The Animal Health plan must be written and in operation by the last inspection prior to organic milk production. (OF&G Livestock Standard 8.5.04). The inspector will review this at your next inspection. The certification office does not need to see the Animal Health plan unless specifically asked for in certain circumstances.

The BSE Audit and Declaration must be completed, all at-risk animals removed and all paperwork supplied to the OF&G Certification office before a certificate for organic milk production can be issued. (OF&G Livestock Standard 8.3.02)

**The OF&G Certification Office must be informed, in writing, of the intended milk production date so that inspections can be planned appropriately. The following check list is to help you in this.**

**Fast Track Checklist** To be completed and a copy sent to OF&G Certification:

Registration Number	
Name and Address	
Feed Plan enclosed	
Date of last use of Dry Cow therapy	
Date of last use of a wormer	
Class of livestock administered to	
Date Animal Health Plan established	
Date BSE Audit and Declaration submitted to OF&G The BSE Audit and Declaration should have been received by OF&G prior to the last inspection before organic milk production	
Date Feeding Plan submitted to OF&G. Please only send copies of documents in support of the Feeding Plan.	
Date Organic Milk production is due to start. This must be from the date the tank is last emptied before the first organic milk pick up.	

OF&G has to inspect your Dairy Unit in the last 6 months before organic milk production begins. This is to prove that production is compliant with the OF&G Standards. OF&G will try to make this coincide with the annual inspection but it may be necessary to undertake this as a Spot inspection for which you will be charged. (See RD16 for current fees).

Only after the pre-organic milk production inspection has been successfully completed and we have received verification of any non-compliances being rectified can a certificate allowing you to sell organic milk be issued.

**Please check with your Milk Buyer that they can take organic milk on the day you hope to produce it before completing this form.**

**Please staple all information required to this sheet and return to OF&G at the address below.**

Organic Farmers & Growers Ltd.  
The Old Estate Yard, Shrewsbury Road, Albrighton, Shrewsbury, SY4 3AG  
Tel: 01939 291800 / 0845 330 5122 Fax: 01939 291250 / 0845 330 5123

## OF&G INSPECTION AND CERTIFICATION CONTROL MANUAL

### Record Sheet 20 - Record of Livestock Feeds

Producer:	Feeding Group:	Number of Animals:	Approx. Weight of Animals:
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Feeding period Dates from - to	No. days fed (A)	Ingredients of feed	Kg fresh weight/a nimal /day (B)	Dry matter % (C)	Kg of dry matter/animal/day (D) = (B x C)			Total Kg dry matter/ animal over period = A x D		
					Organic Kg DM	Conversion Kg DM	Non-organic Kg DM	Organic	Conversion	Non-organic

- Notes.
1. Feeding group - batch of calves born within a month & reared-on/dairy cows/suckler cows/twin lamb ewes/single lamb ewes/stores/sows etc.
  2. Feeding period - dates between which the feed remains constant.
  3. Ingredients - list individual components of farm mixed feed or give name of a brought-in compound or straight and attach labels to this sheet.
  4. Kg Dry matter/animal/day - multiply fresh weight by dry matter percentage (see section 8.4.30 to 8.4.32) and divide by (quantity x no animals).
- This Record sheet was prepared with the assistance of Dan Powell of Gaia Professional

## Fast Track Feed Plan Calculations

### Dry Matter Intake

To calculate the KG Dry Matter / animal / day (Kg DM) multiply the Fresh weight Kg / animal / day by the dry matter percentage

$$\text{KG DM} = \text{Fresh weight (Kg)} \times \frac{\text{Dry matter}}{100}$$

### Annual Dry Matter Intake (ADMI)

Sum the totals for each column in the bottom row of boxes indicated at Totals. Sum the totals of Organic Kg DM / animal (column D), Conversion KG DM / animal (column E) and Non-Organic Kg DM / animal (column F).

$$\text{Annual Dry Matter Intake (ADMI)} = \text{Total D} + \text{Total E} + \text{Total F}$$

$$\text{Organic \%} = \frac{\text{Total Organic KG DM / animal (D)}}{\text{Annual Dry Matter Intake (D+E+F)}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Conversion \%} = \frac{\text{Total Conversion Kg DM / animal (E)}}{\text{Annual Dry Matter Intake (D+E+F)}} \times 100$$

$$\text{Non-organic \%} = \frac{\text{Total Non-organic KG DM / animal (F)}}{\text{Annual Dry Matter Intake (D+E+F)}} \times 100$$

## Fast Track Feed Plan Summary

Annual Dry Matter Intake	=	
Organic % of ADMI	=	
Conversion % of ADMI	=	
Non-organic % of ADMI	=	
Maximum daily Non-organic %	=	